

Appointment Book; Diary  
Lt Gen Hoyt S. Vandenberg  
July 7-9 [1947]; July 7-9, 1947

3520

MANUSCRIPT



DIVISION

THE PAPERS OF  
HOYT S. VANDENBERG

Diaries & Appointment Books

DECLASSIFIED

Box 1

*Gen. Vandenberg*  
**APPOINTMENTS**

YEAR 19 47

*Secretary's desk calendar*



No. 845/5

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Thursday

JULY 7

8:00

2:00

8:30

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9:00

3:00

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3:30

10:00

4:00 Dental Appt.

10:30

4:30

11:00 <sup>for E.</sup> Mr. Cries Lockhead  
Co.

5:00

11:30

5:30

12:00 War Council

6:00

12:30

6:30

1:00

7:00

1:30

7:30

JULY 8

*Monday*

8:00	2:00	8
8:30	2:30	8
9:00	3:00 AIR MARSH GODDARD 4 SUBJECTS	9
9:30	3:30	9
10:00 Recruiting Pres. to S/W + C/S 3E 869-... <i>See Houston Meph. 6/20/47</i>	4:00 Cong. Mrs. ... on ... (See ...)	10
10:30	4:30	10
11:00	5:00	11
11:30	5:30	11
12:00	6:00	12
12:30	6:30 - 8:00 ... Gu ... - 2520 34th Place	12
1:00	7:00	11
1:30	7:30	1

JULY 9

*Cancelled day*

8:00

2:00

8:30

2:30

9:00

3:00

9:30 BEN PEARCE

3:30

10:00

4:00 St Mendt. Room 1015  
Gravelly 6582

10:30

4:30

11:00 O/S Meeting  
Cancelled5:00/p- Mr. Petrick & Mr  
Lawrence - Reaction Motors

11:30

5:30

12:00 *How this new Building  
for 835 W 15th St.*6:00 Any time - *John H. H. H.*

12:30

6:30

1:00 *835 W 15th St.*

7:00

1:30

7:30

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DOD ltr.

8 Jan. 8/20 June 1969

By: *[Signature]* Date: *[Signature]*

*[Redacted]*  
OFFICE OF  
DAVID DEAN WERT OF, DEPUTY COMMANDER  
*[Redacted]*

July 5, 1947

1:00 P.M. Returned from Wichita Falls, Texas.

July 7, 1947

9:15 A.M. Arrive Office.

9:15 A.M. Gen. Rawlings

9:40 A.M. Gen. Boatner with mail.

9:43 A.M. Colonel Garland on phone with reference to memorandum from General Kenney on how to have more groups and fewer people. Was that approved. Approved to extent instructions given that SAC units be left alone until September and at that time make a decision as to approval of Kenney's organization and how extensively it will be used in the Air Force. Find out if Kenney has been advised and let me know.

9:45 A.M. Colonel Galloway thanking General Vandenberg for what he put on for CIC

9:50 A.M. Colonel Garland advised that General Hood had handled the matter of SAC units and would be right down to brief Gen. Vandenberg.

9:55 A.M. Gen Chauncey on phone from Pocatello, Idaho to state that Gen Cannon doesn't want Moody or Turner in Georgia. Doesn't want Columbus at all - wants to substitute San Marcos. Wants to concentrate all expansion in a little bunch in Texas and take over fields that belong to <sup>SECRET</sup> commands like Brooks and Bergstrom. General Chauncey says that it is possible we will have to give up the two in Georgia. Gen Chauncey stated he advised Gen Cannon to put his wants in writing and not to telephone as Gen Chauncey feels Gen Cannon is not too sure of himself, as two months ago he wanted to get out of San Marcos and now he wants it and also Brooks & Bergstrom.

10:00 A.M. Gen Hood & Col Hobson —briefing on SAC units.

10:55 A.M. Mr. Zuckert re civilian personnel and limitations and personnel at inactive installations or installations which we are not planning to retain in our permanent structure.

11:05 A.M. Mr. Robert Gross and Mr. Maher of Lockheed

11:55 A.M. Gen. Sam Anderson

12:00 To War Council in absence of Gen. Spaatz

12:20 P.M. Returned and then to lunch



July 7, 1947 (Cont'd)

- 1:10 P.M. Mr. Hicks of the Toronto Star, Toronto, Canada on phone - He spoke in regard to the "flying discs". They understand these discs are a U.S. plane that is still on the secret list. He asked Gen. Van what he thought they were and Gen. Van was quite noncommittal. Gen. Van said that some National Guard Planes were on duty on their own volition to search for the discs, but that no planes have been put on duty from Hq, AAF.
- 1:20 P.M. General Tommy Power
- 1:40 P.M. Cong. Drewry of Va. on phone requesting a B-29 be sent to Blackstone, Va. for a celebration by the CAF and volunteer fire organizations in the vicinity. Date - July 27. May be able to do some recruiting on that day. Gen. Van said he would look into the matter and advise Mr. Drewry's office.
- 1:50 P.M. Mr. Leo on phone re article on "Saucers". Said one had been found with instructions on it to get in touch with Colonel Frank Hackett in Spokane. Mr. Leo reported the matter to General Schulgen, G-2.
- 1:52 P.M. Mr. Zuckert on phone informing him with reference to National Guard that all planes where we haven't squadron or group headquarters should take their people away.
- 1:55 P.M. Mr. Leo and General LeMay with reference to discs.
- 2:00 P.M. Colonel Frank Hackett, Spokane, Washington on phone - General Van informed Colonel Hackett that we had gotten a call from the Houston Chronicle saying that a flying disc had landed there with his (Colonel Hackett's) name on it. Gen. Van asked if he knew anything about it. Colonel Hackett stated that he knew nothing at all about it. Gen. Van told Col. H. that it was reported here that Col. H. said that his people knew all about it and that a statement was coming out from Washington. Col. H. said, "I have said nothing". Col. H. had the Chronicle called and told to get in touch with the F.B.I. - get photographic proof - and then get in touch with Gen. Twining.
- 2:20 P.M. Colonel Bob Warren, Ellington Field, Tex on phone. - Gen. Van informed Col. Warren that the Houston Chronicle had found a disc about 20" in diameter and 5 or 6" thick. It is supposed to have Col. Frank Hackett's name on it. We are most anxious to explode this thing. I would appreciate it if you would get in touch with the Chronicle, ask them where it is, go out and see the thing and then call me back. The line of approach is that we have nothing like that, we don't understand what it is, but we are leaving no stone unturned to be sure. Colonel Warren said it would be a couple of hours before he could call back.

July 7, 1947 (Cont'd)

2:30 P.M. To airport to meet Mr. Symington and then to Mr. Symington's office.

4:10 P.M. Returned.

4:15 P.M. General O'Donnell

4:20 P.M. General LeMay

4:20 P.M. Col. Warren called back re Gen. Vandenberg's directive that he run down the story about the flying discs. Col. W. finally located the reporter who picked up the story from another man. This man lives in Goose Creek. He now says that it was entirely a figment of his imagination and that he just made it up. Col. W. talked to a Mr. Evans who is handling this thing at the Chronicle — and they took it up with somebody up at the Air Depot at Spokane. - - - - He said to them that he just made the thing up. Col. Warren said that the Chronicle seemed to be satisfied that the thing was just a cock and bull story. Col. W. is going to check with the local F.B.I. and possibly drive over to see the man at Goose Creek. If anything further develops he will call Gen. Vandenberg.

4:30 P.M. Mr. Leo on phone - Gen. Van told him the above story. A civilian, Joe Shipman, who works with Col. Hackett is reported to have told the Chronicle to contact Gen. Twining.

5:00 P.M. To see Mr. Symington

5:15 P.M. Departed for office of Congressman Hoffman.

July 8, 1947

- 9:20 A.M. Arrive office.
- 9:25 A.M. General Gardner and General Power - approved restrictions on flying due to gasoline shortage so that the Air Force would be in a tenable position if it became necessary to curtail civ. gas consumption.
- 9:30 A.M. Gen. LeMay & Dr. Bowles - briefing for JRDB meeting.
- 9:50 A.M. JRDB Meeting with General LeMay.
- 12:15 P.M. Returned - then to Mr. Symington with reference to personnel for the President's Air Board.
- 12:45 P.M. Lunch.
- 1:30 P.M. Returned.
- 1:50 P.M. Colonel Moore on phone who stated Senator Guernsey stopped him in the hall and said they were starting hearings on the three million six hundred thousand dollar cut in flying pay.
- 2:10 P.M. Gen. Rawlings advised Colonel Moore that the cut was okay as we had reduced the number of people on flying status. Also advised Colonel Moore that Sen. Guernsey had been sent the letter of June 20 that went to the rest of the members of the committee with reference to flying pay.
- 2:30 P.M. Mr. Chalmers Hall on phone with reference to a study he is going to present to Senator Vandenberg with reference to the security of this country. Read his plans in detail to Gen. Vandenberg and the General advised him that all the things contained in his study were in the new bill on unification - that it had all the elements he was plugging for.
- 3:00 P.M. General Lyon on phone with reference to the cases of Major John M. White and Gerald R. Johnson for transfer to the Air Forces. All transfers by War Department direction have been cancelled as of 31 March. In the case of Major White there will be no trouble in event of the merger goes through and recommend this case be held until then. Johnson was recommended against by General Fairchild.
- 3:10 P.M. Air Marshal Goddard
- 3:25 P.M. Senator Cabot Lodge on the phone with reference to increased appropriation to call for 70 Groups. (1) Was the 70 Group Program cleared by the Budget or not? Gen Van said no--were cut down to 55 Groups. (2) Can you have someone in your office write an argument as to why it should be 70 Groups? Gen Van advised him

- 3:25 p.m. (Cont'd)      Wants a statement prepared ~~xxxx~~ he can use as coming from him — not an Air Force or General Vandenberg statement — for the 70 Group Program instead of 55. He wants this in a day or two.
- 3:35 p.m.      Briefing by Gen Kauch, Mr. Zuckert, A-3, A-5 on Alaskan Air Base
- 3:45 p.m.      To Office of Congressman Wolverton with Mr. Zuckert on the subject of Alaskan Air Bases. Took up matter of starting hearing at this session of this committee. Will give us an answer tomorrow. Any hearings to be held will be started next week.
- 5:07 p.m.      Returned from Congressman Wolverton's office.
- 5:08 p.m.      To Mr. Symington with reference to personnel for the President's Air Board.
- 5:12 p.m.      Gen. Rawlings on the box reference request of Senator Cabot Lodge mentioned above (3:25 p.m.)
- 5:14 p.m.      To Mr. Symington - re personnel for the President's Air Board.
- 6:15 p.m.      Gen. Kissner on phone re request of Senator Lodge for statement in connection with appropriations. General Kissner will have this ready by Noon tomorrow.
- 6:20 p.m.      To Mr. Leo's office and then home.

July 9, 1947

8:30 A.M. Arrive Office.

8:50 A.M. General Chauncey

9:13 A.M. General Stearley re letter in connection with motion picture personnel. Gen. Van advised it would not get by Secretary Patterson. Have to take a reading on exactly how we can get by with 8 reserve officers and 2 regulars and still spend that money on them. (\$500,000 each) Gen. Van advised him to look into the matter of reserve officers and that his office should write the letter.

9:17 A.M. General Gardner, General Power, Col. Peterson

9:33 A.M. Cong. Harness of Ind. re Capt. Roger Smith O-744641 who has had 5 years overseas with B-29's and is now on terminal leave. He wants reassignment - regular or otherwise, and is willing to be placed on foreign service. Gen. Van asked that he come over to see Major White and we would get him the information. Cong. Harness advised he thought we were getting the Merger Bill worked out pretty fine.

9:35 A.M. General Doolittle on phone. To come in at 10:30.

9:38 A.M. Mr. Ben Pearse with reference to two stories he is writing - one about the Anglo-American Oil Agreement and the other about CIG.

9:25 A.M. Harry Bruno of New York - Gen. Van advised he would let him know as soon as he could with reference to an engagement for week-end either 18 July, 25 July, 1 August or 8 August.

10:30 A.M. To Mr. Symington

10:50 A.M. To Gen. Eisenhower's office with General Norstad

11:45 A.M. Mrs. Bowers of the White House called Major White to advise that Gen. Vandenberg should be in the President's office at 12:15 tomorrow for signing of Air Force proclamation.

12:15 P.M. Returned from Chief of Staff's office.

12:50 P.M. To Mr. Symington

July 9, 1947 (Cont'd)

2:15 p.m. Returned from JCS

2:30 p.m. To Mr. Syrington

3:10 p.m. Returned

3:30 p.m. Mr. Leo on phone re "This recruiting matter". Gen. Streett's office recommends against it on the ground that that is a small enterprize down there and they don't want to set a precedent. Mr. Leo will check further and call back. Also, General Streett has been concerned in the event of unification about recruitment funds and wanted Mr. Leo to express to Gen. Vandenberg his opinion that it ought to be a gradual shift if there was not going to be a central recruitment.

3:40 P.M. General Anderson - General Van informed Gen. Anderson that he was definitely against his leaving Washington at the present time and plans to recommend to Gen. Spaatz that it not be done.

5:05 p.m. Mr. Pethick and Mr. Lawrence. Mr. Pethick (Navy), Mr. Lawrence (President of the Reaction Motors) and General LeMay. Presented to General LeMay and General Vandenberg problem of their monetary position which was bad and they were afraid of being refused contracts which would set back the jet rocket motor development several years. General LeMay stated that they were to take it up with Wright Field and present their case out there where the contracts are let.

5:35 P.M. Home.

16

*Fort Worth Star-Telegram*  
Photographs of Balloon Debris  
[July 9, 1947]









